

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AID-20 SS-15 LAB-06 SIL-01 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-12 EB-11 /098 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/ CAR/ T: PWHILBURN, JR.: JANET

5/30/73 EXT-28451

APPROVED BY ARA/ CAR; JRBURKE

ARA/ CAR: PFCANNEY

LA/ MRSD: GPHILLIPS

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P R 302145 Z MAY 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 103733

E. O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: ELAB, XL, TD

SUBJ: T& T NATIONAL TO ATTEND UPCOMING AIFLD SEMINAR

REF: POS 596, 597, 599

1. PRIOR TO RECEIPT OF REFTELS NEITHER AID/ W NOR DEPT AWARE T& T NATIONAL NOMINATED TO ATTEND AIFLD- SPONSORED SEMINAR AT FRONT ROYAL. AT MAY 30 MEETING IN DEPT AIFLD' S HADDAD SAID GITTENS NOMINATION RESULTED WHEN TTLC INDICATED TO CCL THAT GOTT WOULD NOT OBJECT TO TRINIDADIAN PARTICIPATING IN SEMINAR. UP UNTIL THEN, ACCORDING TO HADDAD, CCL, BECAUSE OF SITUATION IN T& T WITH REGARD TO AIFLD, HAD NOT BEEN ALLOCATING TRAINING SLOTS TO TTLC WHENEVER CCL TRAINING ACTIVITIES WERE SCHEDULED. HADDAD SAID WHEN HE LEFT POS MAY 25 HE WAS UNDER IMPRESSION THAT MINLAB STILL APPROVED TRINIDAD PARTICIPATION.

2. HADDAD WAS REMINDED OF SPECIAL PROVISION NO- E12 IN CARIBBEAN AREA ANNEX D TO AIFLD CONTACT WHICH PRECLUDES " ANY LABOR EDUCATION COURSES AND/ OR ACTIVITIES" IN T& T WITHOUT EXPRESS WRITTEN APPROVAL OF EMBASSY. HADDAD WAS IN-
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FORMED THAT IN OUR VIEW THIS RESTRICTION APPLIED IN GITTENS CASE AND THAT AS A RESULT WE COULD NOT APPROVE THE USE OF USG FUNDS TO SUPPORT HER PARTICIPATION IN FRONT ROYAL SEMINAR. HADDAD READILY AGREED THAT IF GOTT CONTINUED TO OPPOSE HER PARTICIPATION, NO REPEAT NO USG FUNDS WOULD BE UTILIZED. NEVERTHELESS, HE SAID AIFLD WOULD HAVE TO GO

AHEAD AND USE ITS OWN FUNDS IN VIEW OF FACT THAT INVITATION ALREADY TENDERED AND ACCEPTED. TO WITHDRAW INVITATION NOW WOULD BE DAMAGING TO AIFLD'S CREDIBILITY WITH CCL AND ITS AFFILIATES.

3. ALTHOUGH SOMEWHAT HESITANT TO INTERJECT OURSELVES IN WHAT WOULD BE PRIVATE ARRANGEMENT AND BECUASE INVITATION APPARENTLY ACCEPTED, WE REMINDED HADDAD OF CARL TULL'S RECENT REMARKS TO US ABOUT HIS " LOBBYING" TO OBTAIN GOTT'S PERMISSION IN THE NOT TOO DISTANT FUTURE FOR AIFLD TO RESUME ITS ACTIVITIES IN T& T AND NOTED THAT CURRENT FLAP MAY HAVE SET BACK TULL'S EFFORTS. WE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT IT WOULD OBVIOUSLY NOT BE IN AIFLD'S LONG TERM INTEREST TO PURSUE A COURSE PATENTLY CONTRARY TO GOTT'S WISHES.

4. IN MORE GENERAL TERMS WE STRONGLY EMPHASIZED NECESSITY OF CLOSER COORDINATION AND AIFLD'S OBLIGATION TO INFORM EITHER DEPT OR EMBASSY WHEN MATTERS SUCH AS THIS ONE ARE LIKELY TO ARISE. SOME DISCUSSION WAS ALSO DEVOTED TO THE DESIRABILITY OF URGING CRICLOW OR OTHER RESPONSIBLE TTLC OFFICIAL TO RESPOND TO THE GUARDIAN ARTICLES AND EDITORIAL IN ORDER TO CLARIFY THAT GITTENS' NOMINATION WAS AT THE INITIATIVE OF TTLC AND THAT IT HAD NOT BEEN IN ANY WAY SOLICITED BY AIFLD. NO DECISION ON THIS POSSIBILITY, HOWEVER, WAS REACHED. GDS RUSH

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